The Government Timber Stock at Parambikulam.

394. Mr. C. A. Ouseph .—Will the Government be pleased to furnish the following information regarding the Government timber stock at Parambikulam :—

(a) whether the stock was recently verified;

(b) the date of the verification;

(c) whether the actual stock was found to tally with the book figures ; if there was any difference, what is the difference;

(d) the amount spent annually during the last five years for protecting the depot from fire ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a) Yes. (b) 8th Meenam 1100 to 5th Karkadagam 1100.

(c) No. For the difference please see the statement appended. (*Vide Appendix IX.*)

(d) The amounts spent are

	Rs.	a.	p
1096	1,811	4	0
1097	1,754	8	0
1098	2,264	14	11
1099	1,570	9	11
1100	1,700	14	0

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Here the answers given are not easy to make out. Some are put *plus* and some *minus*. I think it is a special method of answering.

Here the book figures and the actual figures are different. The actual figure is less by 273 logs and the quantity greater. The quantity was then to be in excess by 614 candies. This is a problem to be solved.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Because, in the original measurements, allowance was made for defects. In this no allowance for defects was made, but only the actual measurement was made. Defects will have to be taken into account. They will be reduced, when we sell the logs.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—But not when keeping.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Previously, they measured; for example, 2 candies as one candy. Now, for this purpose they measured accurately.

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Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—That does not solve the problem. We have 273 logs less here. What is it due to ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—The floods carried away a good lot of them, and the number of logs so carried away is given.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—What is the reason for the verification ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—It was due to the flood damage.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—How many logs were missing ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—In Appendix IX, the number of logs given in *minus* are missing.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Were there none to keep the logs there ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—When there was 10 feet of water, how was it possible ?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—The forest is the safest place to live in the time of flood.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—There was 10 feet of water in the Tramway lines ; and we can imagine the safety there.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know when the report was submitted ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—The preliminary report was sent soon after the flood, and the verification report after the last hot weather.

The sale of Sirkar elephants.

395. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was recently a sale of Sirkar elephants without advertising the sale in the Gazette or otherwise ?

(b) is there any precedent of such sale in the past ?

(c) why was this extraordinary procedure adopted ?

(d) how many elephants were sold on this occasion, and what price did they fetch ? How much money had the Government to spend on account of these elephants since their capture ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a) Yes. (b) Yes.

(c) The procedure was adopted in the best interests of Government.

(d) Three elephants were sold on the occasion, and the price fetched by them was Rs. 2,300. The total amount spent on account of the animals since their capture was Rs. 532-9-10.

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APPENDIX IX.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 394.)

Results of verification of Parambikulam Depot stock.

	Species	No. of logs	Quantity	Remarks
1.	Teak (logs and toplings) ...	— 273	+ 614 3 8 8¾	
2.	Rosewood (do) ..	— 154	+ 264 4 14 7	
3.	Paly ..	— 8	— 23 0 3 0¾	
4.	Churly ...	— 4	— 21 19 22 0¼	
5.	Elipongu ..	— 8	— 46 20 2 1¾	
6.	Pullamarudu ...	— 3	— 0 2 2 7¾	
7.	Aiyini ...	— 24	— 128 7 14 10½	
8.	Jack ..	— 10	— 27 12 13 4¾	
9.	Irul ...	— 3	— 39 1 16 1¼	
10.	White-cedar ..	— 35	— 175 17 11 11¾	
11.	Pongu logs ..	— 27	— 149 5 23 13¾	
12.	Venteak logs ..	— 133	— 478 4 0 15	
13.	Mylellu logs ..	— ?	— 8 21 6 15¼	
14.	C. Poon ...	— 28	— 193 3 9 0½	
15.	Poon posts ..	— 2	— 0 23 6 9	
16.	Chadachi logs ..	— 1	— 1 13 12 0	
17.	Koramarudu logs ...	— 29	— 193 3 7 11½	
18.	Irul posts ..	— 30	— 19 22 3 15½	

APPENDIX. X.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 396.)

Agreement made on this day the 16th day of Kumbham 1100 by Peruvembu Subramania Ayyar Krishna Ayyar now residing in new Kalpati Village, Palghat Taluk, hereinafter called the contractor to the Conservator of Forests on behalf of the Cochin Darbar.

Whereas the said contractor has agreed to cut, collect and remove all marked trees on seigniorage from compartment No. 9 ofthe Chelakkara Working Circle, Survey No. 444, Elanad village, Talappalli Taluk, at the rates of Rs. 10 per candy of teak, Rs. 15 per candy of rosewood and at the existing seigniorage rates *plus* annas 4 per candy for other junglewood species such as irul, koramarudu, vetankorna, venga, venteak, pullamarudu, chadachi, kunnivaka as well as any other junglewood that the contractor requests for and the Conservator of Forests grants and also the wind-fallen trees within the coupe on the terms and conditions hereinafter mentioned and provided, and has for the due and faithful performance of the same deposited a sum of Rs. 100 as earnest money deposit in the Trichur treasury as per chalan No. 187, dated 2nd Thulam 1100.

1. The trees to be felled shall be marked by the subordinates of the Forest Department from the above said place, and they shall be of and above twelve virals quarter girth in the case of rosewood and 9 virals quarter girth in the case of other species at breast height. This stipulation does not apply to wind-fallen trees.

2. All trees as per this contract shall be felled flush with the ground. No trees other than those marked for felling shall be felled by the contractor.

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